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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Weather Forecasting in the Polish Air Force

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1. Q. To what extent and how are long period (greater than 48 hours in the future) weather forecasts used for planning of air operations by the Polish Air Force; by the Soviet Air Force?
 - A. General weather forecasts for a period of one month are issued. Stand-by crews must be prepared to fly at all times, regardless of weather conditions. Eighty percent of the pilots stationed at a base must be present at all times. Monthly weather forecasts are not too extensively used for planning of air operations. The Soviet Air Force uses the same procedures and techniques as the Polish Air Force.
2. Q. How much consideration is given to such weather predictions in timing future military air maneuvers or operations by the Polish Air Force; the Soviet Air Force?
 - A. When long range weather predictions in timing future military air maneuvers or operations are used, two plans are always drawn up. One for weather predicted for that period and an alternate plan. Maneuvers are normally planned when conditions are favorable for utilizing the maximum number of planes. Should the weather change, fewer planes and also different types of planes would participate in these maneuvers.
3. Q. How reliable are such forecasts?
 - A. Such forecasts have been only fairly reliable.
4. Q. To what extent and how are short period (less than 48 hours in the future) weather forecasts used in planning and conducting tactical operations (in both ground support, including interdiction, and in long-range bomber operations) by the Polish Air Force; by the Soviet Air Force?
 - A. Daily forecasts are used in planning and conducting tactical operations. Air bases located near the sea have difficulties carrying out their missions due to sudden changes in weather even though good flying weather had been predicted for a particular 24-hour period.
5. Q. How reliable are such forecasts?
 - A. These daily forecasts have been most reliable. In addition to the daily forecast, an hourly report is issued as to what changes can be expected within the next 24 hours.
5. Q. What kind of weather briefing do pilots of the Polish Air Force and Soviet Air Force get before missions (describe material furnished in detail)?

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- A. Pilots who are assigned flight missions must attend a weather briefing period held in the morning. While assembled they are shown two weather maps, one of Europe and the other of Poland. Weather conditions for all of Europe and Poland are explained and later a briefing concerning the particular area to be flown in during that day. After the general forecast is issued, hourly changes are listed as they occur. A pilot must check with the weather bureau as to current weather changes before take off. Pilots are not issued any individual material.

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